



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **26th DIRECTING COUNCIL**

31st SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., 24 September – 5 October 1979*

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### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CD26.R21***

### **EXPANDED PROGRAM ON IMMUNIZATION IN THE AMERICAS**

*THE 26<sup>th</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having examined the report of the Director (Document CD26/10) on the progress of the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) in the Americas and having been informed of the limited funds allocated to the program for the financial years 1980–1981;

Having taken note of the continuing efforts made to develop the program at the country and regional levels and of the progress accomplished in implementing Resolutions WHA30.53 and WHA30.541 of the Thirtieth World Health Assembly and Resolution XXVII of the XXV Meeting of the Directing Council; and

After analyzing the funding requirements of the EPI Revolving Fund for the Purchase of Vaccines,

#### ***RESOLVES***

1. To approve the program objectives and policy statement presented in the progress report on the Expanded Program on Immunization in the Americas (Document CD26/10) and particularly to emphasize the importance of this program as the entry point for primary health care and extension of coverage of health services.

2. To urge Member Governments to formulate specific plans for the conduct or maintenance of immunization activities and to include them in their request for technical cooperation through the PAHO Programming and Evaluation System (AMPES).
3. To recommend to the Member Governments that they make use of the EPI Revolving Fund for the Purchase of Vaccines.
4. To recommend to the Director that he study the feasibility of reallocating funds and other resources from related programs to reinforce immunization activities.
5. To repeat the invitation to the Member Governments and bilateral and multilateral agencies in a position to contribute funds or their equivalent in equipment and supplies to consider the limited resources available under the regular budget of the Organization and the ongoing nature of the Program, and to provide maximum long-term support through the WHO Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion (Special Account for the Expanded Program on Immunization) or on a bilateral basis, to ensure country programming on a five to ten year basis.
6. To request the Director to collaborate closely with Member Governments in applied research and health education, and in developing, through training and field support, the management capabilities of senior and middle-level supervisory personnel in order to establish effective and continuing systems of vaccine delivery that will lead to complete immunization coverage.
7. To request the Director to study the possibility of establishing a regional focal point for cold chain equipment development and testing to support these delivery systems.
8. To reiterate to the Member Countries the importance of bolstering information systems as components of the epidemiological surveillance program for evaluating the impact of activities for the prevention and control of diseases in general, and of those covered by the Expanded Program on Immunization in particular.
9. To request the Director to submit regular reports to the Directing Council on the progress of the Program, particularly on its coverage of children under one year of age and its impact on disease incidence.

*Sept.–Oct. 1979 OD 167, 67*